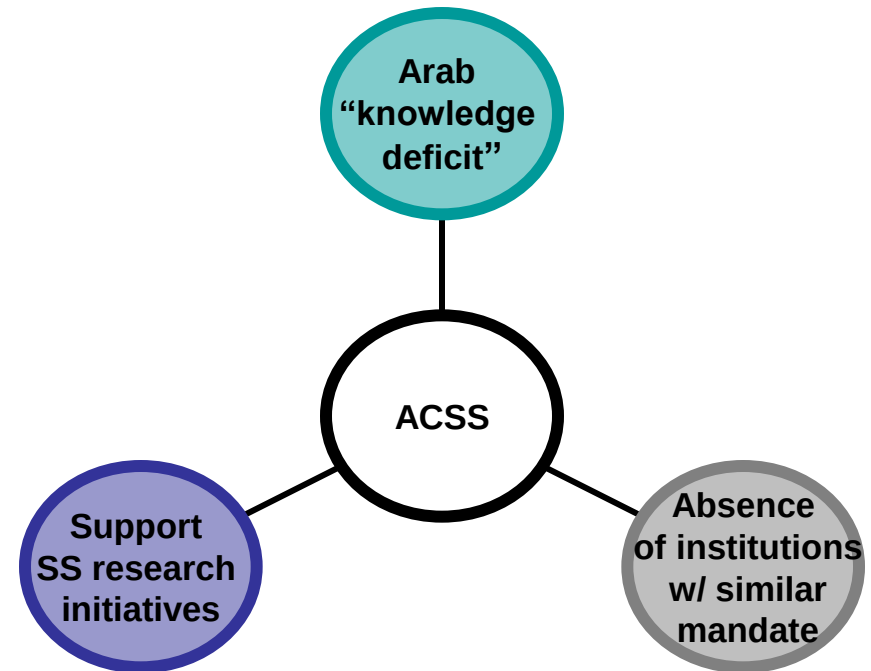


المكتب التنفيذي
THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Creating The Arab Council for the Social Sciences

• Why the Arab Council for the Social Sciences?

- Arab Human Development Reports identify the “knowledge deficit” in the Arab world as one of the most important factors affecting its development and its governance and security challenges
- The social sciences are among the least developed of the different fields of knowledge and yet among the most crucial for ensuring a comprehensive understanding of social, political and economic challenges facing Arab societies and states.
- Surveys of the state of the social sciences in the region indicate the absence of, and the strong need for, a regional institution for the promotion of social science research.



- The ACSS is envisioned as a regional, autonomous non-governmental organization that will strengthen capacity in, and dissemination of, social science research in the Arab world
- The ACSS would strengthen links between Arab social science scholars, as well as their regional and international counterparts
- The ACSS will target and engage the next generation of researchers (including women and diaspora scholars)
- The ACSS will strengthen and support existing institutions through value-added programs and activities which will include: research, training and fellowships, networking and outreach, publications and dissemination

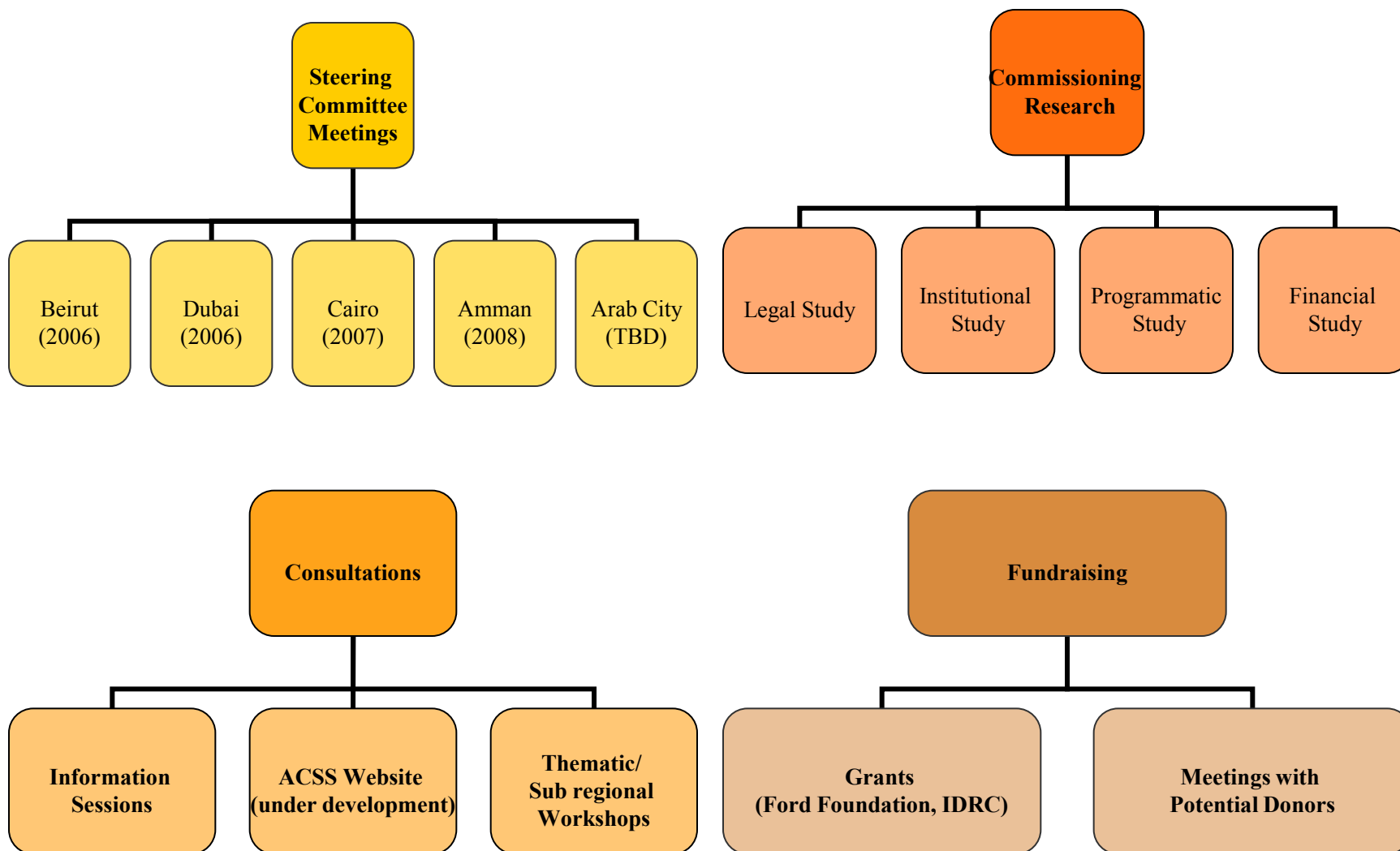
Following consultation meetings in Beirut April 11, 2006 and Dubai November 26, 2006 a steering committee was established to oversee the establishment of an ACSS with the following objectives and outputs to be achieved by September 2008:

- **Strategic Objectives:**

- Develop a strategic vision and mandate for the ACSS through committee meetings, consultations and in-depth research
- Commission papers and background research to determine the most appropriate legal and organizational models for the ACSS, as well as the identification of sustainable funding strategies
- Disseminate the concept and objectives of the ACSS through a website, informational sessions, workshops and consultations with researchers in the Arab region
- Begin the work of identifying suitable research areas, and the priorities areas of work for the ACSS

- **Outcomes:**

- Proposed legal charter and organizational framework
- Well defined mission statement and proposed set of functions
- A viable funding strategy and plan of action
- Detailed timetable and plan for launch of the ACSS



❑ **Activities Currently Under Implementation:**

- Finalization & Launch of website
- Commissioning of background research and consultations
- Planning Steering Committee in Amman on March 1-2, 2008
- Development of a resource mobilization strategy

❑ **The next phase of the project is the actual launch of the ACSS by September 2008 and the implementation of a 2 year foundation period. This includes the following:**

- Establishment of the main governing organs of the ACSS and the dissolving of the steering committee
- Acquisition of sufficient funding for the foundational period of the ACSS
- Hiring key personnel
- Launch of the first phase of programming of the ACSS and development of key program areas and modalities.

Thank You